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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

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25X1A

COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 31 August 1949

SUBJECT Airfield South of Leningrad

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1. The "AEROXAL" airfield management building housed offices, waiting rooms, administration rooms, baggage rooms, the pass control office, and a motion picture theater. About 35 feet from the western wing of the building there were two yellow-blue masts, each 25 to 33 feet high, about 66 feet apart. Both masts were connected with the radio mast on top of the control tower by a single antenna, about 30 feet long (see Annex 2). According to fellow PWs, who worked on the roof of the control building, a glazed radio cabin with several switchboards was located in the control tower. The switchboards were operated by Soviet women talking into headphones. They were apparently in radio communication with aircraft.

2. Forty to fifty transport and commercial planes were parked on a concrete apron, about 500 x 500 feet, and along the eastern border.

3. Radio installation: The airfield had several radio installations: some completed, some under construction. Others were scheduled for construction.

a. The "Radio Center", 130 x 25 x 25 feet, with a directional loop antenna about 22 inches in diameter in the middle of the roof, was located at the northwestern field border. It has been in operation since the spring of 1948 (see Annex 2, B). Parallel to the eastern side of this building, there were five rows of from 2 to 10 radio masts each, 40 to 50 feet high. The masts were 10 to 16 feet apart and tapered toward the tops (diameter at the bottom: 8 inches; at the top: 0.4 inches). They were painted with yellow and blue rings. The masts opposite each other were interconnected by a singly insulated antenna wire, 140 feet long. Branch wires led from the

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐DECLASSIFIED ☐

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various antennae into the building. The radio center was operated only by women.

b. A beacon transmitter for instrument landings was to be set up at the end of the runways (statement of a Soviet engineer).

c. (1) A radio station, 33 x 25 x 20 feet, with directional loop antenna (diameter: about 22 inches) was located north of the PULKOVO hill, on the road. (See Annex 2, C)

(2) Two dual rod antennae, each 40 feet high, 30 mm in diameter, painted brown, stood about 10 feet west of the building. They were arranged in an oblong rectangle, 33 x 1.5 feet. Two antenna rods nearby were interconnected with lateral rods of 20 mm diameter. This radio station was also operated by Soviet women.

d. A radio station (brick structures, 33 x 33 x 25 feet) (see Annex 2, D), was located 10,000 feet east of the road, at the foot of a steep slope of the PULKOVO hill, about 1,600 feet north of the collective farm. Thirty-three feet from the northwestern corner of the building there was a moored mast, about 50 feet high (same as represented on Annex 2, B). A 33-foot-long, single and insulated antenna led from the mast into the building. A second mast was being set up 33 feet from the northeastern building corner. The building comprised three rooms: sitting room for radio personnel (only two Soviet women at the time of observation); engine room (with two German Diesel engines for emergency cases); radio cabin: Two US switchboards, marked "US Army", were set up in early March 1949. (For details see Annex 2, E and F)

4. Condition of airfield: The surface of the field was very poor, especially near the runway, in spite of the drainage facilities. Take-offs and landings were possible only on the run-way and taxiway.

5. Occupation: 40 to 50 aircraft of the following types were permanently stationed there:

a. Commercial aircraft: Length of fuselage: About 66 feet; wingspan: 100 feet; slightly tapering wings; two radial engines; low-wing monoplanes; single rudder assembly; landing gear not completely retractable, without landing flaps; tail wheel not retractable; some of these aircraft had a directional loop antenna above their cockpits.

b. (1) Commercial and transport aircraft: Measurements as in a.; retractable nose wheel, no tail wheel; after landing, the plane would stand in flying position; fuselage more circular than that of plane in a.; single rudder assembly; low-wing monoplane; two radial engines.

(2) Soviet pilots stated that this was an "ILYUSHIN" aircraft. With seats, the plane flew as a commercial plane, without seats, as a transport plane.

(3) There were about 300 ground and flying personnel, not counting the numerous Soviet women employed as radio operators.

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6. Flying at the field started in the spring of 1948. Ten to fifteen passenger planes took off and landed every day in March 1949. Only two or three planes took off or landed at night.
7. Aircraft observed in the air: fighter formations flying over the field from south to north at altitudes of from 2,500 to 3,300 feet, and at irregular times. According to Soviet airfield personnel, these aircraft were stationed in PUSHKIN (30°25' E/59°43' N).

Annexes:

1. Airfield South of Leningrad
2. Radio Installations at the Leningrad-South Airfield

Field Comment:

The aircraft described in paragraph 5-a are believed to be LI-2's. Those in paragraph 5-b are probably IL-12's, which have a wing-span of 119 feet, a fuselage length of 67 feet, and carry 27 passengers.

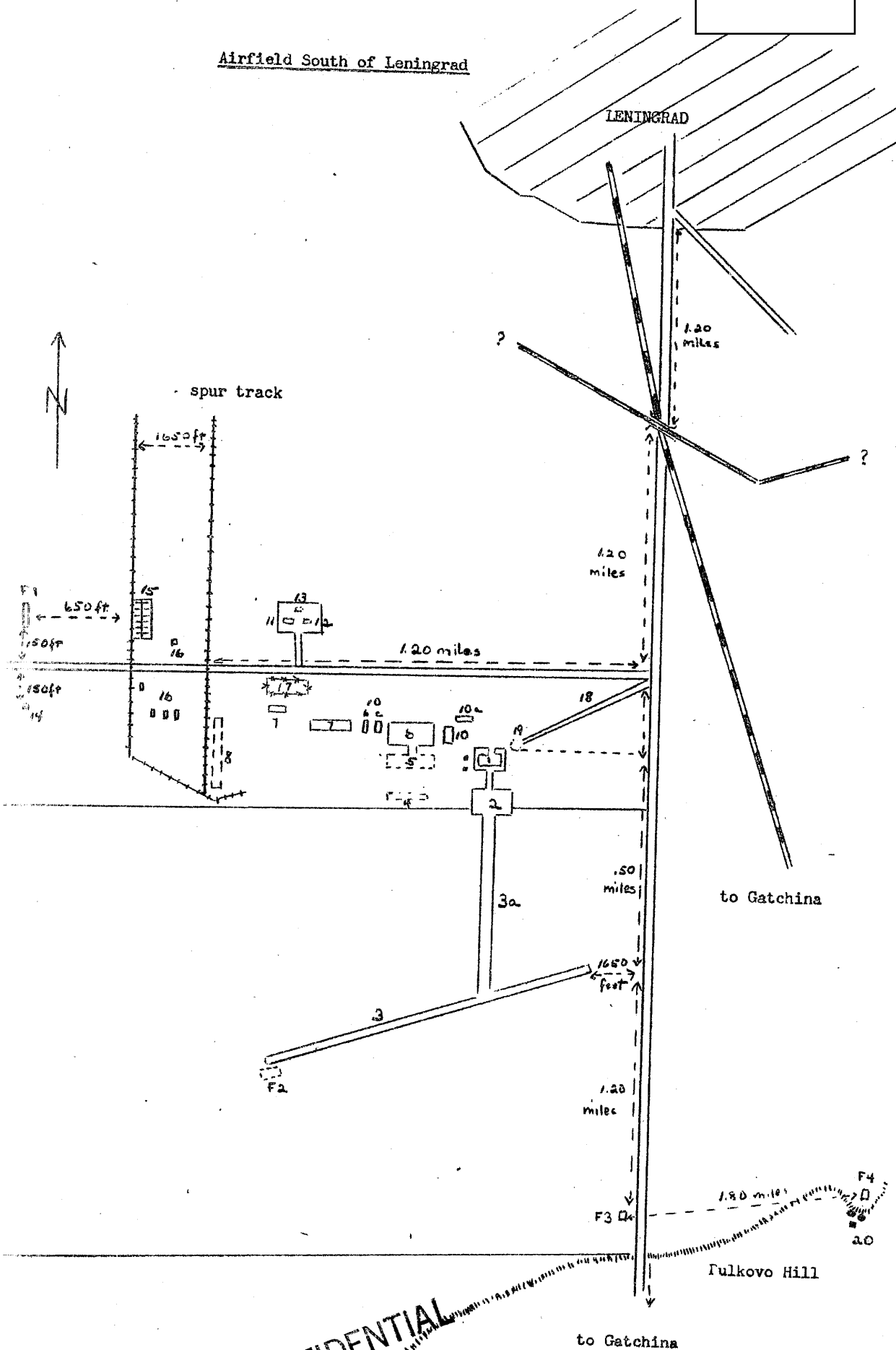
Legend for Annex 1:

1. Airport headquarters building "Aeroxel"
2. Concrete aircraft parking site
3. Concrete runway, about 6,600 x 110 feet
- 3a. Concrete taxi-way, about 2,650 x 85 feet
4. Destroyed steel hangar without roof
5. Destroyed hangar
6. Newly constructed workshop, 330 x 265 x 33 feet, annex to item 5
7. Hangar under construction; foundations about 330 x 33 feet
8. Destroyed building of the former pilot school
9. Guardhouse for PW camp
10. Fuel dump
- 10 a-c. Garages
11. Carpentry
12. Garage and locksmith's shop
13. Sawframe
14. Pump station
15. Fuel dump
16. Dwelling houses
17. PW camp
18. Approach road
19. Circular apron
20. Collective farm
- F1. "Radio center"
- F2. Scheduled radio beacon
- F3. Radio station
- F4. Radio station

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Airfield South of Leningrad

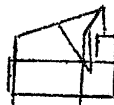
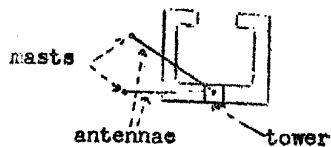


Radio Installations at the Leningrad-South Airfield, Leningrad MD

A

Plan view:

Side view:



B

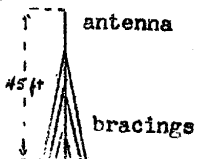
plan view:

mast:

directional
loop antenna

antennae
with branch
wires

road to airfield

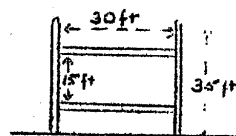


C

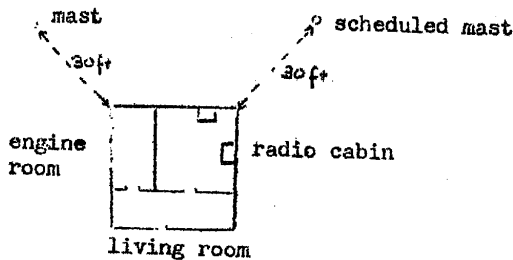
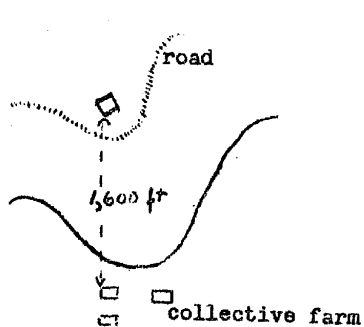
plan view:

antenna:

to Gatchina

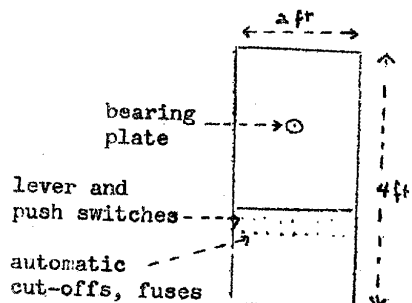


D



E

radio control desk:



F

bearing plate:

